

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

\$4,000,000 BLAZE HITS PITTSBURGH

Four Firemen Are Seriously Hurt and a Dozen Others Receive Lesser Injuries—Severe Cold Handicaps Firemen in Fighting Conflagration.

Department Store, Theatre and Other Buildings in Path of Flames Are Razed—Heavy Fire Wall Prevents Destruction of Entire City Block.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 27.—Fire that swept through a section of the retail business district here today destroyed the Frank & Seder department store, the Grand Opera House, the Hilton Clothing Co. and a dozen or more smaller buildings with a loss estimated at nearly \$4,000,000.

Four firemen were seriously hurt and a dozen or more were so severely injured that they were removed to hospitals. It appeared for a time as if the fire would sweep the entire square, but heavy fire walls, built in anticipation of such an event, finally stayed the progress of the flames, which ate through the hundreds of tons of merchandise piled in the stricken buildings.

The fire is said to have started in the J. G. McCrory 5 and 10 cent store shortly after midnight, but gave the firemen no concern until shortly after 4 o'clock when it had eaten its way into the Frank & Seder store. Firemen were seriously handicapped by the severe cold, it being necessary to carry hot water from neighboring restaurants to thaw street hydrants before streams under pressure were available.

The fire ate its way down Fifth avenue from Smithfield street toward Wood street and drove scores of guests from their rooms in the Newell hotel.

At one time the flames leaped across Diamond street and damaged the Solomon department store and the Harbison theater, but were soon extinguished. It then became evident that if the fire wall which formed the west and south sides of the Grand opera house would hold, the fire could be confined within bounds that would permit the saving of no less than half the square.

The buildings were among the oldest in the business section with the exception of the Grand opera house, which was modern in every way. The principal losses, it is said, will fall on the Frank & Seder Co., the Hilton Co. and the Davis enterprise, which owned and operated the opera house.

WEDNESDAY WILL BE BRIDGEPORT'S DAY IN HARTFORD

Hearings Will Be Held on Twenty Proposed Amendments to Charter.

Wednesday will be Bridgeport Day at the General Assembly in Hartford. Commencing at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, before the committee on cities and boroughs, hearings will be held on 20 proposed amendments to the Bridgeport charter adopted in 1907.

The proposed charter amendments have been explained at length in these columns. Amendments increasing the salaries of the city officials, the city court officials and regulating the sale of milk will also be heard.

Compromise Between Carr and Officials of Trinity Church

After several weeks of negotiating it is reported that Thomas J. Carr, the Cannon street cabaret proprietor, has settled his difficulties with Trinity Episcopal church and that the remonstrance filed by the church will shortly be withdrawn. The objection against Carr was that the location, which adjoins the church, was unsuitable for a liquor license.

Counsel for Carr represented that his client had no desire to make trouble for the church and was willing to make any concessions which the Trinity members asked. Carr declared he could get no other suitable location and if the church pressed the remonstrance he might be driven out of business.

The Trinity officials replied that they had no wish to put Carr out of business. If he would agree to make certain changes in the conduct of his cabaret it was thought a satisfactory compromise could be reached. The agreement will be made in writing and when the papers are signed the remonstrance will be withdrawn.

BIRTH CONTROL ADVOCATE GETS FOOD BY FORCE

Mrs. Ethel Byrne Collapses In Her Cell After Prolonged Fasting.

DOCTORS DECLARE CONDITION GRAVE

Forceful Feeding Will Be Continued to Prevent Her Starvation.

New York, Jan. 27.—The prison authorities resorted to forcible feeding in the case of Mrs. Ethel Byrne after the birth control propagandist collapsed today while maintaining her "hunger strike" in her cell on Blackwell's island, where she is serving a 30-day term. According to physicians Mrs. Byrne was too weak to resist.

It was announced that the involuntary feeding method would be continued unless Mrs. Byrne consented to abandon her intention to starve herself as a "martyr" to her cause of publicity circulating birth control ideas.

The feeding of Mrs. Byrne was announced after the physicians came to regard her condition as dangerous. Eggs and milk constituted her first meal since Monday night.

Mrs. Byrne's friends professed great anxiety regarding her physical condition and declared that until today she had not taken either food or drink since she began her 30-day sentence in the Blackwell's island workhouse.

Commissioner of Correction Lewis professed some skepticism in this regard and said he believed the prisoner had assuaged her thirst by sucking a wet handkerchief which she washed several times yesterday.

BUILDING TRADES WIN STRIKE OVER NON-UNION LABOR

"No Card, No Work" Rule Again Enforced Successfully In This City.

The strike which yesterday took nearly 100 union workers attached to the building trade industry from the uncompleted storage building being erected in Whiting street by the Austin Construction Co. was won by the unions today.

Following a conference between heads of the trades represented and the construction company it was decided to take from the work all the non-union electricians employed by the United Illuminating Co., as was done recently at the Fairfield county court house.

It is likely that the contracts held by the United Illuminating Co. will be abrogated, in accordance with custom, where firms by reason of labor differences are unable to fulfill their obligations.

Announcement was made by the trades unions today that their men would return to work Monday as a result of the agreement.

Telephone Operators' Walk Out Ties Up R. R. Switchboard Service

Two persons "walked out" in the Bridgeport offices of the New Haven railroad Wednesday. As a result business was technically known, but the operating department of the railroad practically ceased for the period of a couple of hours and until a train could bring two more temporary substitutes to this city.

The power of a "P. B. X." as the private-branch exchange telephone operators are technically known, was probably never shown to greater degree in this city than at the time last Wednesday when Miss Hazel Hair and her associate operator decided that they would no longer submit to the rigid rules being instituted for their guidance.

When they took off their headpieces, "plugged-in" their head and walked out of the employ of the company all intercommunication by telephone between local offices, round-houses, stations and to New Haven and other points ceased except by telegraph. The only department not directly affected was the operating department which is connected between towers and divisions with individual telephone and telegraph lines. But for this fact it is believed in railroad quarters that even train service would have been interrupted.

Efforts upon the part of Trainmaster Lou P. Bristol and others in authority to have clerks in the service attempt the telephone service are today said to have been unsuccessful because of union regulations of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. Until operators fully conversant with the technical railroad traffic could be brought from out of town, telephonic communication except by spasmodic connection was impossible.

The services are now replaced by others furnished by the Southern New England Telephone Co., who have been especially instructed for their work.

SMALLPOX CASES INCREASE

Hartford, Jan. 27.—Two new cases of small pox in Stamford were reported to the state board of health today.

Representative David E. Finley of South Carolina, is dead.

HUGE DRESDEN ARSENAL BLOWS UP; 1,000 GIRLS AND WOMEN ARE KILLED

Paris, Jan. 27.—The Dresden arsenal has been blown up and one thousand women and young girls killed, according to a letter taken from a German soldier, dated Dec. 30. The letter was written from Dresden and the writer said that all the windows within a radius of 12 miles were broken by the explosion.

RAILROAD POSTS ANOTHER NOTICE OF AN EMBARGO

From Today Until End of Month Rigid Prohibition Will Be Enforced.

After a lapse of several weeks during which no embargoes were in force on the lines of the New Haven road, another embargo has been ordered, which will extend from today until midnight Jan. 31 and stops the importation over this railroad of practically everything but foodstuffs, perishable freight and food for livestock.

While out-going freight is not generally affected on the New Haven road, the condition of connecting lines throughout the eastern portion of the United States is such that a special department has been found necessary at New Haven to determine what shipments may be made from New England to specific points of destination and what shipments may not.

Railroad officials declare that the matter of shipping today is more complicated and puzzling than the Gordian knot. Nearly every road throughout the Eastern states is embargoed against its connecting lines or against all east or westbound freight at a certain point, with a host of exceptions that apply to one line only.

To determine what may go freely across the continent and what may not is a question that shipping clerks in the employ of big industries or the freight agents in smaller cities are unable to fathom. For this purpose the New Haven road now has a bureau, known as the "Embargo Department." All questions of railroad shipment are now decided by the experts who are keeping track of the thousands of changes made weekly by various railroads in their congestion stops, before cars are allowed to clear from the point of shipment.

The present embargo, which will affect local business interests, is not considered serious at this time, and is said to be due to the large influx of freight forced upon the road when it recently opened its gateway to the outside world.

FORMER LOCAL RESIDENT TAKES LIFE IN BOSTON

No Reason Known Here For Suicide of Harold W. Kelley.

Mystery surrounds the suicide in Boston, Monday, of Harold W. Kelley, formerly a resident of 170 Denver avenue, this city, and widely known here. The body was brought to this city yesterday and the funeral services held at 2:40 this afternoon from the undertaking parlors of Hawley & Wilmot, Rev. H. D. Pierce, pastor of the Memorial Baptist church in Howard avenue conducted the services. The funeral was private and the burial was in Mountain Grove cemetery.

Kelley was an exceedingly bright young man whose boyhood was spent in the West End. With his two sister, Louise, he graduated from the Maplewood school several years ago. Brother and sister have made their homes since childhood with their uncle, Roscoe D. Johnson, a foreman for Col. Charles L. Gaylord, the awning and tent maker. After leaving school Kelley obtained employment with his uncle and worked with him until last August. Then he decided to try his fortune in another city. He went to Boston where he obtained employment at different jobs and of late had been working for a wrecking company. He boarded at the home of Mrs. Paul Barrett in South Boston. Recent letters to his mother here gave no intimation of his intention to commit a rash act.

Last Monday his landlady found him in bed writhing in agony. He had drunk carbolic acid. He was taken to the City Hospital where he died. His death caused as great a shock to Mrs. Barrett as to his relatives. He was not in financial distress, had no affair of the heart and except that he told the Boston hospital physicians he wished to die, no cause for his act is known. Kelley was known and liked by scores of people whose awnings he took care of while employed here. He was a member of Uncas council, No. 25, O. J. A. M.

THE WEATHER

Fair tonight, Sunday increasing cloudiness, probably snow; slowly rising temperature.

BRIDGEPORT IS MECCA FOR U. S. MARINE OFFICERS

Activity at Lake Torpedo Boat Co. Plant Greater Than Ever.

Much activity is being displayed at the Lake Torpedo Boat Co. plant in this city, where a number of submarines for the United States government are now under course of completion. With builder's tests being made upon the L-5, which is daily plying Sound waters under a special crew, consisting of lake engineers and government officers and enlisted men, work is rapidly being pushed on the submarines laid down and plans for others.

Many United States officers, inspectors and supervisors are making their headquarters here, "growing up with the boats" they will eventually command.

The latest assignment by the Navy Department is Assistant Naval Constructor Edmund R. Norton, now on duty at the Charlestown Navy yard, Boston, whose preliminary orders to proceed to Bridgeport have been issued.

During the coming summer Bridgeport is destined to be the habitation of a large navy detachment, with the Amphibite complement, will add greatly to the marine coterie rapidly forming in this city.

Work on the remaining L and N boats, which are already progressing towards launching, will place several of these boats in the water during the summer months and the harbor will take on the appearance of a large naval base.

Trials on the L-5, which has been off Penfield light for several days, are said to have been satisfactory, as to speed requirements and submergence.

Exhibition diving of the United States submarine G-1, formerly known here as the "Tuna" of Newport recently has attracted wide attention in the news. Despatches commenting upon the "German" dive made by the G-1 (meets with general criticism here as giving credit to the German constructors due to American, Simon Lake, whose patents in America were all granted upon "even keel submergence" as heretofore been exclusively acknowledged as the originator of this method of submergence which permits a boat to sink from sight while under high speed and without causing the boat to plunge down perpendicularly with danger of striking her first at the bottom.

BOY OF 14 YEARS RIVAL OF FAMOUS JIM THE PENMAN

Forged Checks and Victimized Local Merchants for Small Sums.

The disposition of the cases of two minors, one Roy Boyle, 14 years, of 285 Berkshire avenue, who had every appearance of a "Little Lord Fauntleroy," so puzzled Judge Frederic Bartlett this morning that he decided to take their cases under advisement and continued them until Monday.

Boyle is one of the strangest young offenders ever brought to the bar in this city. A bright intelligent youth, he was working in the offices of the Remington Arms Co., and possessed a surprising knowledge of banking transactions. The police state that if he had not been apprehended he would be a rival for the honors of the famous "Jim the Penman."

He walked into a local bank, requested a bank book, which was given him, and then cleverly forged checks, five of which he passed on local merchants, for sums of \$5 and \$6. He came to this city from New York recently and was living with a brother at 286 Berkshire avenue. The latter refused to come to court in his brother's behalf this morning.

Judge Bartlett is undecided whether to send Boyle to the Reform school or the George Junior Republic Institution. He was arrested yesterday by Detective Sergeant James Dooley, and has forged checks in his possession when searched.

The other case which will be disposed of Monday concerns John Newman, a New York youth, who cleverly opened a new style combination locked cash receptacle and stole \$40, while working in the store of the American Tea Co., 629 Washington avenue. He was arrested yesterday and admitted stealing the money.

REPORTED LOST, SHIP IS SAFE

London, Jan. 27.—The report of the sinking of the British steamer Matina was erroneous, according to a Lloyd's announcement. Her owners say she has reached port.

GERMANS LOSE 5 AEROS IN FIGHT ON VERDUN LINE

Paris Reports Vigorous Aerial and Artillery Duels Near Hill 304.

RUMANIANS CLAIM GAIN IN MOLDAVIA

Russians Bring Up Aid Near Aa River, But Can't Check Advance.

Paris, Jan. 27.—Vigorous artillery fighting occurred last night on the Verdun front, in the region of Eparges and Hill 304. German defense works were subjected to an intense fire, the war office communication of today reports. Five German airships were brought down.

FRENCH ATTACK FALLS

Berlin, Jan. 27, by wireless to Sayville.—A new attack was made by the French on the Verdun front, near Hill 304, early this morning, the war office reports. The attack broke down with heavy losses.

RUMANIANS MAKE GAINS

Jassy, Rumania, via London, Jan. 27.—Rumanian troops in the last two weeks have made substantial progress in Moldavia, the war office announces.

RUSSIANS GET HELP

Berlin, Jan. 27, by wireless to Sayville.—The Russians in the Riga region have reinforced their lines east of the river Aa, but the fresh forces brought up were of no avail in helping the Russians to regain ground taken in the German attacks, says today's army headquarters statement. The German operations southwest of Riga, on the northern end of the Russian front, have been successful, writes the military critic of the Overseas News agency in his review today of military conditions in that region.

LANDLORD CAN'T INTERFERE WITH WORK OF CUPID

Beating Up Tenant Because Girl Had Caller Not Sustained By Court.

The right of a young lady to entertain in a rented apartment possible suitors for her hand even though she does not live with her father, is still untrammelled. Neither has the landlord a right to assault and throw from his place of business a tenant who comes to appeal for his rights, according to a decision rendered today by Justice John Casey.

In suit for \$100 damages Joseph Machuda of Brooks street was awarded \$25 today by the court against Joseph Olavski, a saloon-keeper in Brooks street.

Testimony was offered to show that Machuda rents from Olavski, who objected to company visiting Miss Machuda. When the father went to the landlord's place of business to protest he was beaten up and thrown into the street. The action was brought upon the ground of assault.

John H. Tyson Again Involved In Courts

John H. Tyson, whose father made a fortune with his theatre ticket agencies in New York hotels, has been brought into her court again. This time he has been sued for \$1,500 by Louis C. Howard of New York, who formerly did business under the name of the American Automobile Co. Papers in the action were filed today in the common pleas court.

It is alleged that Tyson who lives in Greenwich, endorsed a note for \$1,000 given by Dorothy Tyson in 1911 to Howard. This note was not paid and when presented to Tyson he also refused payment. Tyson's matrimonial troubles and his numerous arrests for reckless automobile driving have brought him much notoriety.

"Who Was Oliver Osborne?" Federal Jury Is Debating

New York, Jan. 27.—The much debated question, "Who Was Oliver Osborne?" was submitted to the decision of the jury in the Federal court today.

This question lies back of the case of Franklin D. Sanford, formerly clerk in a hotel in Plainfield, N. J., who has been on trial for the last 15 days charged with committing perjury when he swore that James W. Osborne, a prominent New York attorney, visited the hotel with Miss Rae Tanzer. Miss Tanzer's companion at the hotel signed his name "Oliver Osborne." She declared that he is James W. Osborne, but Charles H. Wax, a witness at the trial, asserts that it was he that masqueraded under that name.

The case was summed up yesterday and Judge Hand charged the jury this morning. The case went to the jury early this afternoon.

RESIGNS SHIPPING BOARD

Washington, Jan. 27.—The resignation of Bernard N. Baker of Baltimore as a member of the federal shipping board was officially announced today.

HALLIDAY, FREED IN SHOOTING, IS HELD FOR FRAUD

Judge Bartlett Finds Not Sufficient Evidence to Hold Him For Assault With Intent to Kill, But Promptly on His Discharge, Warrant is Served on Real Estate Man Alleging Conspiracy to Commit Fraud.

William A. Halliday, of 103 Garfield Ave., was re-arrested in the dock of the city court this morning on a charge of conspiracy with intent to defraud after Judge Frederic A. Bartlett declined to hold him for the Superior court on the allegation of the state that he assaulted, with intent to kill, his partner, Francis Romero, in an argument over real estate deeds in which both were involved.

FIGHTING ON AS TROOPERS QUIT MEXICO

Withdrawal of Punitive Expedition Starts Shooting Between Americans and Mexicans—Villa Follows in Wake of Troops—Incessant Firing on Arizona Line.

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 27.—Lying in rocks close to the international line, 40 members of Troop B, First Utah Cavalry, led by Lieut. Marna, were keeping up an incessant firing at Mexican soldiers across the line today. The Mexicans were returning the shots.

American civilians are being kept back from the scene of the fighting by Lieut. Arns who is holding them in reserve. A party of civilians headed by N. C. Bernard, rancher and county supervisor, left Arivaca at dawn for the scene of the fighting, which is 75 miles from Tucson.

Firing kept up until 2 o'clock this morning, when the cavalrymen in the rocks were relieved by a detachment from Arivaca, where the Utah troops have been stationed.

The Mexican soldiers opened fire on American cowboys, who were trying to round up a herd of cattle on the American side, it is alleged.

VILLA FOLLOWS TROOPS
El Paso, Tex., Jan. 27.—Villa followers were moving in the wake of the American expeditionary forces as they withdrew from El Valle, San Joaquin and Charcos, according to a report received here from persons reliable sources. They remained at safe distances, it was said.

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 27.—As near as known, none of the American troops has been wounded or killed. Reinforcements from Nogales are being rushed to the scene. Soldiers and civilians returning from the line report they saw several Mexican soldiers fall during the fighting.

A telephone message from Arivaca says the Mexican soldiers engaging the Americans are from the Carranza garrison at Sasabe. The Villa troops appeared at El Valle after the American troops had left. The American troops on the march included cavalry, infantry and artillery, accompanied by wagon trains.

TROOPS LEFT AT DAWN.
El Paso, Tex., Jan. 27.—American troops started north from the field headquarters at Colonia Dublan at dawn today, according to reports from Columbus, N. M., brought there early today by passengers arriving overland. The troops that left were believed to be the advance guard of the punitive expedition.

EXPEDITION EN ROUTE.
Juarez, Mex., Jan. 27.—American troops were marching out of Colonia Dublan toward the border at 7 o'clock this morning, according to a message received in Casas Grandes. The message did not give the extent of the troop movement, but it was predicted in Casas Grandes that the entire expeditionary force would be on the road northward before nightfall.

Helen Eames Clapp Given Life Use of Estate of Sister

Helen Eames Clapp is bequeathed the life use of the income of the estate of her sister, Martha L. Higby. The estate is estimated at nearly \$50,000. The will was admitted to probate today. Judge Morris B. Beardsley is trustee and executor. Mrs. Higby directs that the income be made a trust fund for the life use of her sister.

At the death of Mrs. Clapp, the estate is to be divided share and share alike among her children or their descendants. Property at 779 Lafayette street is a part of the estate. Louis K. Gould and L. B. Powe were named appraisers today.

MEN'S CLUB TO ELECT

The Men's club of Trinity Episcopal church will hold their annual election of officers at the regular monthly meeting on Monday evening, Jan. 28, in the parish house, at Broad street and Fairfield avenue. The meeting will follow an oyster supper and entertainment at 7 p. m. The members of the club wish to extend an invitation to all men of the city who may be interested to attend the meeting.

Fire destroyed the old chemical laboratory of the University of Virginia at a loss of \$25,000.